AMENDMENT

Amendments to the Claims

Please replace all prior versions and listings of claims with the following listing of claims.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A ball throwing machine comprising:

a support body (4) mountable on [[the]] a ground (3)[[,]];

a pair of rotary shafts (6, 6) supported by said support body (4) so that they are and rotatable around their own respective parallel axes (5, 5)[[,]];

a pair of rotary wheels (7, 7) fixed <u>concentrically</u> on said rotary shafts (6, 6), each of the <u>rotary wheels (7, 7) having a respective outer peripheral surface (10, 10)</u> concentrically with the latter, an;

<u>a pair of</u> electric <u>motors</u> motor (8, 8) supported by said support body (4), the electric motors (8, 8) individually driving a rotation of a respective one of to enable said [[two]] rotary wheels (7, 7) to be driven for rotation, and an; and

<u>a pair of</u> operatively connecting means (9, 9) [[for]] <u>individually</u> operatively connecting <u>a</u> <u>respective one of</u> said two rotary wheels (7, 7) <u>and said rotary shafts (6, 6)</u> to <u>a respective one of</u> said electric <u>motors meter</u> (8, 8),

wherein the arrangement being such that said two rotary wheels (7, 7) are rotated rotate in opposite directions (C, D) in operative association with the driving of a respective one of the electric motors motor (8, 8) and through a respective one of said operatively connecting means (9, 9) and said rotary shafts (6, 6), and

wherein a ball (2) fed between the outer peripheral surfaces (10, 10) of said two rotary wheels (7, 7) is nipped between the outer peripheral surfaces (10, 10) and accelerated and thrown outward, said ball throwing machine being characterized in that

wherein said support body (4) comprises a support body main body (15) mountable on the ground (3)[[,]] and a support pipe (16) supported by said support body main body (15).

Application Serial No.: 10/550,391

Attorney Docket No.: 541401-0317768

Reply to Office Action mailed August 10, 2006

wherein said support body main body (15) comprises a support frame (17) mountable on the ground (3), pillars (18, 19) projecting upward from said support frame (17), and a pivot shaft (44) for pivotally supporting said support pipe (16) on the pillars (18, 19) to allow said support pipe (16) to turn around an axis (43) of said pivot shaft (44),

wherein said support pipe (16) extends in a left-right direction and the axis (43) of the pivot shaft (44) extends in a front-rear direction such that the support pipe (16) and the axis (43) of said pivot shaft (44) are three-dimensionally orthogonal to each other,

wherein said support pipe (16) extends [[to]] linearly extend so as to support the rotary shafts (6, 6) in a state in which the rotary shafts (6, 6) extend through the support pipe (16) in a direction orthogonal to [[the]] a longitudinal direction of the support pipe (16).

wherein a first one of said rotary wheels (7) and a first one of said electric motors (8) is supported by a left portion of the support pipe (16), and a second one of said rotary wheels (7) and a second one of said electric motors (8) is supported by a right portion of the support pipe (16),

wherein said operatively connecting means (9, 9) disposed outside said support pipe (16),

wherein any sections of said support pipe (16) taken longitudinally thereof are rectangles of equivalent shape and size, and

wherein a rotation speed of each of the rotary wheels (7, 7) are individually variable under control of a respective one of the electric motors (8, 8) such that the rotation speed of each of the rotary wheels (7, 7) can be made different from one another.

2-5. (Cancelled)